

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, or listings, of the claims in the application.

Claims 1-8 (Canceled).

Claim 9 (Previously presented): A method for the treatment of diabetic ischemic disease in a subject, comprising  
administering a therapeutically effective amount of a nucleic acid encoding hepatocyte growth factor to the muscle of an ischemic site, thereby treating the ischemic disease.

Claim 10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (Previously presented): The method according to claim 9, wherein the diabetic ischemic disease is selected from the group consisting of diabetic lower limb ischemic disease, diabetic ischemic neuropathy, and diabetic ischemic myocardial infarction.

Claim 12 (Original): The method according to claim 11, wherein the diabetic ischemic disease is diabetic lower limb ischemic disease.

Claim 13 (Canceled).

Claim 14 (Previously presented): The method according to claim 9, wherein the nucleic acid encoding the hepatocyte growth factor is in the form of a Sendai virus (HVJ)-liposome.

Claim 15 (Previously presented): The method according to claim 9, wherein the nucleic acid encoding the hepatocyte growth factor is administered repeatedly.

Claim 16 (Previously presented): The method according to claim 9, wherein at least 50 µg of the nucleic acid encoding the hepatocyte growth factor is administered to the subject.

Claims 17-21 (Canceled).